IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   (Amended) A method for transforming gene expression signals, the method comprising the steps of:

        determining a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and

5   deriving a transformation that ~~renders uniform~~creates, within a selected interval, a uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals for the gene, and wherein each gene expression signal is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the uniform distribution.

10 2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of applying the transformation to an additional gene expression signal.

3.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of deriving comprises the steps of:

15   determining a function that approximates ~~the~~a distribution of the plurality of gene expression signals for the gene; and

        using the function to create the transformation, wherein the transformation ~~renders uniform~~creates a uniform probability distribution of the transformed gene expression signals, ~~and wherein each gene expression signal is mapped by the transformation into a~~

20 ~~transformed gene expression signal~~.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Canceled)

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6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Canceled)

5   9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Canceled)

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12.   (Canceled)

13.   (Canceled)

15   14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Canceled)

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17.   (Amended) A system comprising:

a memory that stores computer-readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:

25   determine a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and

derive a transformation that ~~renders uniform~~creates, within a selected interval, a uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals for the gene, and wherein each gene

expression signal is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the uniform distribution.

18.	(Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured to apply the transformation to an additional gene expression signal.

19.	(Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the computer-readable code is further configured, during the step of deriving, to perform the steps of:

determine a function that approximates ~~the~~a distribution of the plurality of gene expression signals for the gene; and

use the function to create the transformation, wherein the transformation ~~renders uniform~~creates a uniform probability distribution of the transformed gene expression signals~~, and wherein each gene expression signal is mapped by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal~~.

20.	(Canceled)

21.	(Canceled)

22.	(Canceled)

23.	(Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, the computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to determine a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and

a step to derive a transformation that ~~renders uniform~~creates, within a selected interval, a uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals for the gene, and wherein

each gene expression signal is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the uniform distribution.

24.   (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the computer-readable code means further comprises a step to apply the transformation to an additional gene expression signal.

25.   (Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the computer-readable code means is further configured, during the step of deriving, to perform:

        a step to determine a function that approximates ~~the~~a distribution of the plurality of gene expression signals for the gene; and

        a step to use the function to create the transformation, wherein the transformation ~~renders uniform~~creates a uniform probability distribution of the transformed gene expression signals~~, and wherein each gene expression signal is mapped by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal~~.

26.   (Canceled)

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Canceled)